

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of M.V.A. and G.L.A., III, Minors.

FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

GARY ALWARD II,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

SHERRY ALWARD,

Respondent.

UNPUBLISHED

March 13, 2003

No. 242074

Ingham Circuit Court

Family Division

LC No. 00-042912-NA

Before: Griffin, P.J., and Neff and Gage, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent-appellant appeals as of right from the circuit court order terminating his parental rights to the minor children under MCL 712A.19b(3)(g). We affirm. This case is being decided without oral argument pursuant to MCR 7.214(E).

The circuit court did not clearly err in finding that the statutory ground for termination was established by clear and convincing evidence. MCR 5.974(I); *In re Miller*, 433 Mich 331, 337; 445 NW2d 161 (1989). Respondent-appellant failed to secure stable, suitable housing in the nearly two years his children were in care. The evidence supports the trial court's conclusion that respondent's limitations make it unclear whether he will ever be able to parent the children by himself,¹ and that the children need and deserve permanency and stability in their lives.

¹ The parental rights of the children's mother, respondent's former wife, were also terminated and her appeal was withdrawn by stipulation.

Furthermore, he did not attend counseling, which was required as part of his parent-agency agreement. Thus, the circuit court did not err in terminating respondent-appellant's parental rights to the children.

Affirmed.

/s/ Richard Allen Griffin

/s/ Janet T. Neff

/s/ Hilda R. Gage